

# FLA

**FLAGITIOUSNESS**. *n. f.* [from *flagitiosus*.] Wickedness; villainy.

**FLAGON**. *n. f.* [flaccid, Welsh; flaxe, Saxon; flafke, Danish; flacon, French; fiasco, Italian; flasca, Spanish.] A vessel of drink with a narrow mouth.

A mad rogue! he pour'd a *flagon* of Rhenish on my head once.

More had sent him by a sutor in Chancery two silver *flagons*.

Did they coin pipets, bowls, and *flagons*?

Int' officers of horse and dragoons! *Hudibras*, p. i. cant. 2.

His trusty *flagon*, full of potent juice,

Was hanging by, worn thin with age and use. *Roscommon*.

One *flagon* walks the round, that none should think

They either change, or flint him of his drink. *Dryd. Juv.*

**FLAGRANCY**. *n. f.* [flagrantia, Latin.] Burning; heat; fire.

Lust causeth a *flagrancy* in the eyes, as the sight and the touch are the things desired, and therefore the spirits resort to those parts. *Bacon's Natural History*.

**FLAGRANT**. *adj.* [flagrans, Latin.]

1. Ardent; burning; eager.

A thing which filleth the mind with comfort and heavenly delight, stirreth up *flagrant* desires and affections, correspondent unto that which the words contain. *Hooker*, b. v. f. 39.

2. Glowing; flushed.

See Sapho, at her toilet's greasy task,

And issuing *flagrant* to an evening mask:

So morning insects, that in muck begun,

Shine, buzz, and fly-blow in the setting sun. *Pope's Epistles*.

3. Red; imprinted red.

Their common loves, a lewd abandon'd pack,

The beadle's lash still *flagrant* on their back. *Prior*.

4. Notorious; flaming.

When fraud is great, it furnishes weapons to defend itself; and at worst, if the crimes be so *flagrant* that a man is laid aside out of perfect flame, he retires loaded with the spoils of the nation. *Swift*.

With equal poize let steady justice sway,

And *flagrant* crimes with certain vengeance pay;

But, till the proofs are clear, the stroke delay. *Smith*.

**FLAGRATION**. *n. f.* [flagro, Latin.] Burning.

**FLAGSTAFF**. *n. f.* [flag and staff.] The staff on which the flag is fixed.

The duke, less numerous, but in courage more,

On wings of all the winds to combat flies:

His murdering guns a loud defiance roar,

And bloody crosses on his *flagstaffs* rise. *Dryd. Ann. Mirab.*

**FLAIL**. *n. f.* [flagellum, Latin; flegel, German.] The instrument with which grain is beaten out of the ear.

Our soldiers, like the night owl's lazy flight,

Or like a lazy thresher with a *flail*,

Fell gently down as if they struck their friends. *Sh. H. VI.*

When in one night, ere glimpse of morn,

His shadowy *flail* hath thresh'd the corn,

That ten day-labourers could not end,

Then lies him down the lubbar-fend. *Milton*.

In this pile should reign a mighty prince,

Born for a scourge of wit, and *flail* of sense. *Dryden*.

The dextrous handling of the *flail*, or the plough, and being good workmen with these tools, did not hinder Gideon's and Cincinnatus's skill in arms, nor make them less able in the arts of war and government. *Locke*.

The thresher, Duck, could o'er the queen prevail;

The proverb says, no fence against a *flail*. *Swift*.

**FLAKE**. *n. f.* [flocus, Latin.]

1. Any thing that appears loosely held together, like a flock of wool.

O crimson circles, like red *flakes* in the element, when the weather is hottest. *Sidney*, b. ii.

And from his wide devouring oven sent

A *flake* of fire, that flushing in his beard,

Him all amaz'd, and almost made afraid. *Fairy Queen*.

The earth is sometimes covered with snow two or three feet deep, made up only of little *flakes* or pieces of ice. *Burn*.

Small drops of a misting rain, descending through a freezing air, do each of them shoot into one of those figured icicles; which, being ruffled by the wind, in their fall are broken, and clutched together into small parcels, which we call *flakes* of snow. *Grew's Cosmolog. Sac.* b. i. c. 3.

Upon throwing in a stone the water boils for a considerable time, and at the same time are seen little *flakes* of scurf rising up. *Addison on Italy*.

2. A stratum; layer; lamina.

The *flakes* of his tough flesh so firmly bound,

As not to be divorced by a wound. *Sandys*.

A labourer in his left hand holding the head of the center-pin, and with his right drawing about the beam and teeth, which cut and tore away great *flakes* of the metal, 'till it received the perfect form the teeth would make. *Moxon*.

**TO FLAKE**. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To form in flakes or bodies loosely connected.

# FLA

From the bleak pole no winds inclement blow;

Mold the round hail, or *flake* the fleecy snow. *Pope's Odyssey*.

**FLAKY**. *adj.* [from *flake*.]

1. Loosely hanging together.

The silent hoar steals on,

And *flaky* darkness breaks within the East. *Shaksp. Rich. III.*

The trumpet roars, long *flaky* flames expire,

With sparks that seem to set the world on fire. *Pope*.

Hence, when the snows in Winter cease to weep,

And undissolv'd their *flaky* texture keep,

The banks with ease their humble streams contain,

Which swell in Summer, and those banks disdain. *Blackm.*

2. Lying in layers or strata; broken into laminae.

**FLAM**. *n. f.* [A cant word of no certain etymology.] A falsehood; a lye; an illusory pretext.

A *flam* more senseless than the ro'ry

Of old aruspicy and aug'ry. *Hudibras*, p. ii. cant. 3.

'Till these men can prove the things, ordered by our church,

To be either intrinsically unlawful or indecent, all pretences or pleas of conscience to the contrary are nothing but cant and cheat, *flam* and delusion. *South's Sermons*.

What are most of the histories of the world but lyes?

Lyes immortalized and consign'd over as a perpetual abuse and *flam* upon posterity. *South's Sermons*.

**FLAM**. *n. f.* [from the French *flamme*, a flame.] A transient blaze; a sudden explosion of flame from fat or dripping; and so in Scotland transferred to any thing glowing and flashily illusory.

**TO FLAM**. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To deceive with a lye. Merely cant.

For so our ignorance was *flam'd*,

To damn ourselves to avoid being damn'd. *Hudibras*, p. iii.

God is not to be *flam'd* off with lyes, who knows exactly what thou canst do, and what not. *South's Sermons*.

**FLAMBEAU**. *n. f.* [French.] A lighted torch.

The king seiz'd a *flambeau* with zeal to destroy. *Dryden*.

As the attendants carried each of them a *flambeau* in their hands, the sultan, after having ordered all the lights to be put out, gave the word to enter the house, find out the criminal, and put him to death. *Addison's Guardian*.

**FLAME**. *n. f.* [flamma, Latin; flamme, French.]

1. Light emitted from fire.

Is not *flame* a vapour, fume, or exhalation heated red hot, that is, so hot as to shine? For bodies do not flame without emitting a copious fume, and this *flame* burns in the *flame*. *Newton's Opt.*

What *flame*, what lightning e'er

So quick an active force did bear! *Cowley*.

2. Fire.

Jove, Prometheus' theft allow;

The *flames* he once stole from thee, grant him now. *Cowley*.

3. Ardour of temper or imagination; brightness of fancy; vigour of thought.

Of all our elder plays,

This and Philaster have the loudest fame;

Great are their faults, and glorious is their *flame*:

In both our English genius is express'd,

Lofty and bold, but negligently dress'd. *Waller*.

4. Ardour of inclination.

Snit with the love of kindred arts we came,

And met congenial, mingling *flame* with *flame*. *Pope*.

5. Passion of love.

My heart's on *flame*, and does like fire

To her aspire. *Cowley*.

Come arm'd in *flames*; for I would prove

All the extremities of love. *Cowley*.

No warning of th' approaching *flame*;

Swiftly like sudden death it came:

I lov'd the moment I beheld. *Granville*.

**TO FLAME**. *v. n.* [from the noun.]

1. To shine as fire; to burn with emission of light.

Can you think to blow out the intended fire your city is ready to *flame* in, with such weak breath as this? *Shaksp.*

He fell *flaming* through th' ethereal sky

To bottomless perdition. *Milton*.

Hell all around

As one great furnace *flam'd*.

2. To shine like flame.

Behold it like an ample curtain spread,

Now streak'd and glowing with the morning red;

Anon at noon in *flaming* yellow bright,

And chusing fable for the peaceful night. *Prior*.

3. To break out in violence of passion.

**FLAMECOLOURED**. *adj.* [flame and colour.] Of a bright yellow colour.

'Tis strong, and it does indifferent well in *flamecoloured* stockings. *Shakspere's Twelfth Night*.

August shall bear the form of a young man of a fierce and choleric aspect, in a *flamecoloured* garment. *Peacocks*.

**FLAMEN**. *n. f.* [Latin.] A priest; one that officiates in solemn offices.

Then first the *flamen* tasted living food;

Next his grim idol smear'd with human blood. *Pope*.

FLAMMATION.

# FLA

**FLAMMATION**. *n. f.* [flammatio, Latin.] The act of setting on flame.

White or crystalline arsenick, being artificial, and sublimed with salt, will not endure *flammation*. *Brown's Vulgar Err.*

**FLAMMABILITY**. *n. f.* [flammabilitas, Latin.] The quality of admitting to be set on fire.

In the sulphur of bodies torrifed, that is, the oily, fat and unctuous parts, consist the principles of *flammability*. *Brown*.

**FLAMMEOUS**. *adj.* [flammeus, Latin.] Consisting of flame; resembling flame.

This *flammeous* light is not over all the body. *Brown*.

**FLAMMIFEROUS**. *adj.* [flammifer, Lat.] Bringing flame. *Diët.*

**FLAMMIVOMOUS**. *adj.* [flamma and vomo, Latin.] Vomiting out flame. *Diët.*

**FLAMY**. *adj.* [from flame.]

1. Inflamed; burning; flaming.

My thoughts imprison'd in my secret woes,

With *flamy* breaths do issue oft in found. *Sidney*, b. ii.

2. Having the nature of flame.

The vital spirits of living creatures are a substance compounded of an airy and *flamy* matter; and though air and flame, being free, will not well mingle, yet bound in by a body they will. *Bacon's Natural History*.

**FLANK**. *n. f.* [flanc, French, according to *Ménage*, from *λαγών*; more probably from *latus*, Latin.]

1. That part of the side of a quadruped near the hinder thigh.

The belly shall be eminent by shadowing the *flank*. *Peacocks*.

2. [In men.] The lateral part of the lower belly.

He said, and, pois'd in air, the jav'lin sent:

Through Paris shield the forceful weapon went,

His corset pierces, and his garment rends,

And glancing downward near his *flank* descends. *Pope*.

3. The side of any army or fleet.

Great ordnance and small shot thundered and showered upon our men from the rampier in front, and from the galleries that lay at sea in *flank*. *Bacon's War with Spain*.

The other half of the battle, and the whole *flank* of the rear, was closed by the carriages. *Hayward*.

Gray was appointed to stand on the left side, in such sort as he might take the *flank* of the enemy. *Hayward*.

To right and left the front

Divided, and to either *flank* retir'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost*.

4. [In fortification.] That part of the bastion which reaches from the curtain to the face, and defends the opposite face, the *flank* and the curtain. *Harris*.

**TO FLANK**. *v. a.*

1. To attack the side of a battalion or fleet.

2. To be posted so as to overlook or command any pass on the side; to be on the side.

With fates averf, against their king's command,

Arm'd on the right, and on the left they stand,

And *flank* the passage. *Dryden's Æn.*

By the rich scent we found our perfum'd prey,

Which *flank'd* with rocks, did close in covert lay. *Dryden*.

**FLANKER**. *n. f.* [from *flank*.] A fortification jutting out so as to command the side of a body marching to the assault.

The Turks, discouraged with the loss of their fellows, and fore beaten by the Spaniards out of their *flankers*, were enforced to retire. *Knutley's History of the Turks*.

**TO FLANKER**. *v. a.* [flanquer, French.] To defend by lateral fortifications.

**FLANNEL**. *n. f.* [ewalanen, Welch, from *gulan*, wool, Davies.] A soft nappy stuff of wool.

I cannot answer the Welch *flannel*. *Shakspere*.

**FLAP**. *n. f.* [loeppe, Saxon.]

1. Any thing that hangs broad and loose, fastened only by one side.

There is a peculiar provision for the windpipe, that is, a cartilaginous *flap* upon the opening of the larynx, which hath an open cavity for the admission of the air. *Brown's Vulg. Err.*

Some surgeons make a crucial incision, upon the supposition that the wound will more easily heal by turning down the *flaps*.

2. The motion of any thing broad and loose.

3. [A disease in horses.]

When a horse is said to have the *flaps*, you may perceive his lips to be swelled on both sides of his mouth; and that which is in the blisters is like the white of an egg; you must, to cure it, cut some flaves with a knife, and rub it once with salt, and it will cure. *Farrier's Diët.*

**TO FLAP**. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To beat with a flap, as flies are beaten.

A hare, hard put to it by an eagle, took sanctuary in a ditch with a beetle: the eagle *flapt* off the former, and devoured the other. *L'Estrange*.

Yet let me *flap* this bug with gilded wings,

This painted child of dirt, that stinks and stings. *Pope*.

2. To move with a flap or noise made by the stroke of any thing broad.

The dira *flapping* on the shield of Turnus, and fluttering about his head, disheartened him in the duel. *Dryden's Æn. Dedicat.*

# FLA

With fruitless toil

Flap filmy pinions oft, to extricate

Their feet in liquid shackles bound. *Philippi*.

Three times, all in the dead of night,

A bell was heard to ring;

And shrieking at her window thrice

The raven *flapt* d his wing. *Tickell*.

**TO FLAP**. *v. n.*

1. To ply the wings with noise.

'Tis common for a duck to run *flapping* and fluttering away; as if maimed, to carry people from her young. *L'Estrange*.

2. To fall with flaps, or broad parts depending.

When suffocating mists obscure the morn,

Let thy worst wig, long us'd to storms, be worn;

This knows the powder'd footman, and with care

Beneath his *flapping* hat secures his hair. *Gay's Trivia*.

**FLAPDRAGON**. *n. f.*

1. A play in which they catch raisins out of burning brandy; and, extinguishing them by closing the mouth, eat them.

2. The thing eaten at flapdragon.

He plays at quots well, and eats conget and fennel, and drinks candles ends for *flapdragons*, and rides the wild mare with the boys. *Shakspere's Henry IV. p. ii.*

**TO FLAPDRAGON**. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To swallow; to devour.

But to make an end of the ship, to see how the sea *flap*-dragoned it. *Shakspere's Winter's Tale*.

**FLAPPEARED**. *adj.* [flap and ear.] Having loose and broad ears.

A whorleson, beetleheaded, *flappeared* knave. *Shakspere*.

**TO FLARE**. *v. n.* [from *fladeren*, to flutter; Dutch; *Skinner*; perhaps accidentally changed from *glare*.]

1. To flutter with a splendid show.

She shall be loose enrob'd,

With ribbands pendant *flaring* 'bout her head. *Shakspere*.

2. To glitter with transient lustre.

Doctrine and life, colours and light, in one

When they combine and mingle, bring

A strong regard and awe; but speech alone

Doth vanish like a *flaring* thing. *Herbert*.

3. To glitter offensively.

When the sun begins to ring

His *flaring* beams, me, goddess, bring

To arched walks of twilight groves. *Milton*.

4. To be in too much light.

I cannot stay

*Flaring* in sunshine all the day. *Prior*.

**FLASH**. *n. f.* [φάξ, Minshew.]

1. A sudden, quick, transitory blaze.

When the cross blue lightning seem'd to open

The breast of heav'n, I did present myself

Ev'n in the aim and very *flash* of it. *Shaksp. Jul. Cæsar*.

We see a *flash* of a piece is seen sooner than the noise is heard. *Bacon's Natural History*, N<sup>o</sup>. 210.

One with a *flash* begins, and ends in smok;

The other out of smok brings glorious light. *Roscommon*.

And as Ægeon, when with heaven he strove,

Defy'd the fork lightning from afar,

At fifty mouths his flaming breath expires,

And *flash* for *flash* returns, and fires for fires. *Dryd. Æn.*

2. Sudden burst of wit or merriment.

Where be your gibes now? your gambols? your songs?

Your *flashes* of merriment, that were wont to set the table in a roar?

Wicked men prefer the light *flashes* of a wanton mirth, which for a while suspend reflection, and hide the sinner from himself, to such discourses as awaken conscience. *Rogers*.

3. A short transient state.

The Persians and Macedonians had it for a *flash*. *Bacon*.

4. A body of water driven by violence.

**TO FLASH**. *v. n.*

1. To glitter with a quick and transient flame.

This salt powdered, and put into a crucible, was, by the injection of well kindled charcoal, made to *flash* divers times almost like melted nitre. *Boyle*.

2. To burst out into any kind of violence.

By day and night he wrongs me; ev'ry hour

He *flashes* into one gross crime or other,

That sets us all at odds. *Shakspere's King Lear*.

3. To break out into wit, merriment, or bright thought.

They *flash* out sometimes into an irregular greatness of thought. *Felton on the Claphams*.

**TO FLASH**. *v. a.* To strike up large bodies of water from the surface.

With his raging arms he rudely *flapt* d

The waves about, and all his armour swept,

That all the blood and filth away was wash'd. *Fairy Queen*.

If the sea-water be *flashed* with a stick or oar, the same causeth a shining colour, and the drops resemble sparkles of fire. *Carroll's Survey of Cornwall*.

FLASHER.